

Message Text

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15

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01

OMB-01 /130 W

----- 126063

R 140515Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5468

INFO NACC COLLECTIVE 25

C O N F I D E N T I A L COLOMBO 2956

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EGEN

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: WORK OF ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

1. DELEGATION OFFICERS HANDLING ECONOMIC COMMITTEE TOLD EMBOFF AT LUNCH AUGUST 13 THAT WORK PROCEEDING AT SNAIL'S PACE. COMMITTEE HAD CONCLUDED WORK ON THURSDAY BY DECIDING TO FORM SMALL DRAFTING GROUP WHOSE PRINCIPAL FUNCTION WAS TO CONSOLIDATE AMENDMENTS IN ORDER TO PROCEED WITH PARAGRAPH BY PARAGRAPH REVIEW OF DRAFT DECLARATION, AS WELL AS TO IDENTIFY WHERE DRAFT RESOLUTIONS COVERED SAME SUBJECT. UNDER NON-ALIGNED DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES, HOWEVER, DRAFTING GROUP WAS DECLARED OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS AND THIRTY-FIVE DELEGATIONS SHOWED FOR MORNING MEETING.

2. DELS REPORTED THAT MEETING CONDUCTED AS IF IT WERE PLENARY SESSION WITH DELEGATIONS PRESENTING THEIR AMENDMENTS WITH LENGTHY SUPPORTING SPEECHES, INCLUDING ORAL RECITATION OF ENTIRE TEXT. WHEN, HOWEVER, COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ROYO (PANAMA) SUGGESTED TO GROUP THAT WORK WOULD NOT BE FINISHED IN TIME FOR A FULL COMMITTEE MEETING THEN SCHEDULED FOR 6:00 PM THAT EVENING, SOME DELEGATIONS PROTESTED THAT WHOLE MEMBERSHIP HAD TO BE

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KEPT INFORMED OF WHAT THE GROUP WAS DOING. (WE UNDERSTAND

FULL COMMITTEE DID MEET LAST NIGHT).

3. DELS FELT THAT, GIVEN PLETHORA OF AMENDMENTS, REAL PROGRESS WAS IMPOSSIBLE. ONE NOTED WITH AMUSEMENT THAT ANOTHER DELEGATE WORKING ON POLITICAL COMMITTEE HAD CONGRATULATED HIM FOR RELATIVE SPEED WITH WHICH ECONOMIC MATTERS BEING HANDLED.

4. WE HEAR FROM VARIOUS SOURCES THAT DRAFTING COMMITTEES ARE LIKELY TO HAVE TO CONTINUE WORKING EVEN AFTER SUMMIT BEGINS ON AUGUST 16.

REED

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